

## Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BRIDGE 00526 232335Z

ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 SS-14 ISO-00 SP-02 EUR-08 INR-05 NSC-05  
CIAE-00 EB-04 TRSE-00 PM-03 DODE-00 OMB-01 /053 W  
-----008486 232342Z /65

R 231216Z FEB 78

FM AMEMBASSY BRIDGETOWN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4776

INFO AMEMBASSY PORT OF SPAIN

CONFIDENTIAL BRIDGETOWN 0526

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: EAID, XL

SUBJECT: DISILLUSIONMENT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN

1. IN CONVERSATION TODAY (FEBRUARY 22) FOREIGN MINISTER FORDE TOLD ME OF HIS MEETINGS IN TRINIDAD WITH GOTTE OFFICIALS. A PRINCIPAL TOPIC WAS THE PROSPECT THAT SIGNIFICANT NEW U.S. ASSISTANCE FOR THE CARIBBEAN WILL NOT BE FORTHCOMING. AS FORDE PUT IT, "THERE WILL BE NO ADDITIONALITY." FORDE SAID THIS WAS A VERY DISCOURAGING DEVELOPMENT MAKING HIM WONDER IF THE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP WAS WORTHWHILE AT ALL. HE SAID TRINIDADIANS ARE TAKING A "WE TOLD YOU SO" POSITION. FORDE SAID THAT TRINIDAD WOULD IN NO WAY PARTICIPATE IN THE CARIBBEAN CONSULTATIVE GROUP BUT HOWEVER WOULD CONTINUE TO GIVE BILATERAL ASSISTANCE TO THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN.

2. I MAY HAVE MADE SOME IMPRESSION ON HIM BY POINTING OUT THAT THE PROBLEMS OF THE EASTERN CARIBBEAN PERHAPS WERE NOT PRECISELY ASCRIBABLE TO THE LACK OF LARGE AMOUNTS OF FOREIGN ASSISTANCE, THAT IN FACT SMALL AMOUNTS IF PROPERLY APPLIED COULD BRING ABOUT VERY SIGNIFICANT IMPROVEMENTS. NEVERTHELESS, I PERCEIVE SOME DISENCHANTMENT AS OVERINFLATED EXPECTATIONS OF LARGE SCALE U.S.

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ASSISTANCE BEGIN TO DEFLATE.  
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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptoning:** Z  
**Capture Date:** 01 jan 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** POLICIES, FOREIGN ASSISTANCE  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 feb 1978  
**Decaption Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 20 Mar 2014  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1978BRIDGE00526  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Expiration:**  
**Film Number:** D780084-1089  
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**Office:** ACTION ARA  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** LIMDIS  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
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**Page Count:** 2  
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**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
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**Subject:** DISILLUSIONMENT U.S. ASSISTANCE TO THE CARIBBEAN  
**TAGS:** EAID, XL, TD, US  
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**Review Markings:**  
Sheryl P. Walter  
Declassified/Released  
US Department of State  
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**Markings:** Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014